

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K-115
MHC #160194101

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

La thim House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Turners Creek Park

CITY, TOWN

Kennedyville

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Kent

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☒ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Kent County Parks & Recreation Dept.

Telephone #: (301) 778-1948

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Dudley Orem, Director, P.O. Box 64

CITY, TOWN

Worton

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21678

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #: EUP 47

Folio #: 477

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

In 1970, the Lathim House, which stands on a hillside overlooking Turners Creek was little more than a ruin of an early 19th century brick house and an earlier plank wing. It was partially salvaged, however, the log wing and first story of the brick section rebuilt, and converted into an office, storage, and public rest-rooms by the Kent County Department of Recreation. The house is now one of four old and new structures maintained by Kent County in conjunction with their Turners Creek park and marina.

The building stands on a high stone basement which is built into a hillside. The plank wing, two stories high & four bays wide is one room deep, is divided into two rooms on the first floor by a 19th century partition of vertical beaded boards. There is a simple corner stair which leads to the attic, now connected to the attic of the brick section. Only the first floor of the brick shell remains. It is now covered with a gable roof. Interior floors, the roof, and chimneys are all largely new or substantially rebuilt.

A wide, one story porch has been constructed across the front of the building and the plank section has been covered with weatherboarding, except on the gable end where the plank walls show. Each plank is about 12" high and 4" thick, corners show the common "V" notching used because it drained rain water away, reducing rotting. The brick walls are painted white. Six over six sash windows are used throughout, the doors and blinds on the first floor windows are batten. The attic is lit by four-pane attic windows in each gable.

The structure was recorded and photographed in May 1970 by Michael Bourne, of the Maryland Historical Trust, during demolition. His report follows:

"Before it was wrecked, the Lathim House was a two story building two bays of which were brick and three bays log covered with weatherboard. The latter part was originally a one and one-half story log building, approximately 20 by 16 feet. A large fireplace was located assymetrically on the north gable. Apparently the fireplace was removed when the brick section was constructed in the late 18th century.

The brick portion consisted of a room on each floor with an open stair leading from first to second and boxed stair from second story to attic. On both storys, the beaded beams were exposed and the assymetrical fireplaces were located on the north gable.

All interior woodwork was of the simplest variety beaded batten doors, beaded vertical siding, two piece chair rail, and very simple mantels. The stair was close string, although the balusters, which were square but set on the diagonal, extended to the step. The newel was turned in a simple fashion.

One large window with 9/6 lights remained prior to destruction. Its double thickness batten shutters were hung on strap hinges

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

7 Continued

and there was a shutter lock to fasten it when closed.

The entire structure stood on a two part stone basement, one part dating from the two stages of development."

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

By 1800 Turners Creek was the site of a small but thriving community. It had at least three brick houses, two of which Knocks Folly (K-121) & Janvier House (K-116) had interior and exterior detailing of good quality. There were undoubtedly simpler houses and barns, and the Lathim House is one of these. Interestingly both the Lathim House and the grand Federal, Knock's Folly had side wings of plank construction. Both wings predated the brick houses, which were constructed about 1800 or soon after.

Plank construction, as distinguished from the crude log construction, was considered an acceptable material for permanent, even pretentious dwellings. When carefully done plank walls were relatively watertight, uniform, of good insulating value. Frequently such buildings were covered with weatherboards outside and board or plaster walls inside, as were both, the Lathim House and Knock's Folly. Since the fire in winter 1977 which destroyed most of Knock's Folly's wing, the Lathim House is significant as one of the last remaining dwellings of its type.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Forman, H.C., Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, 1934,
p. 217, 223, "Old House opposite Knock's Folly".

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Historical Society

DATE

August, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Church Alley

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

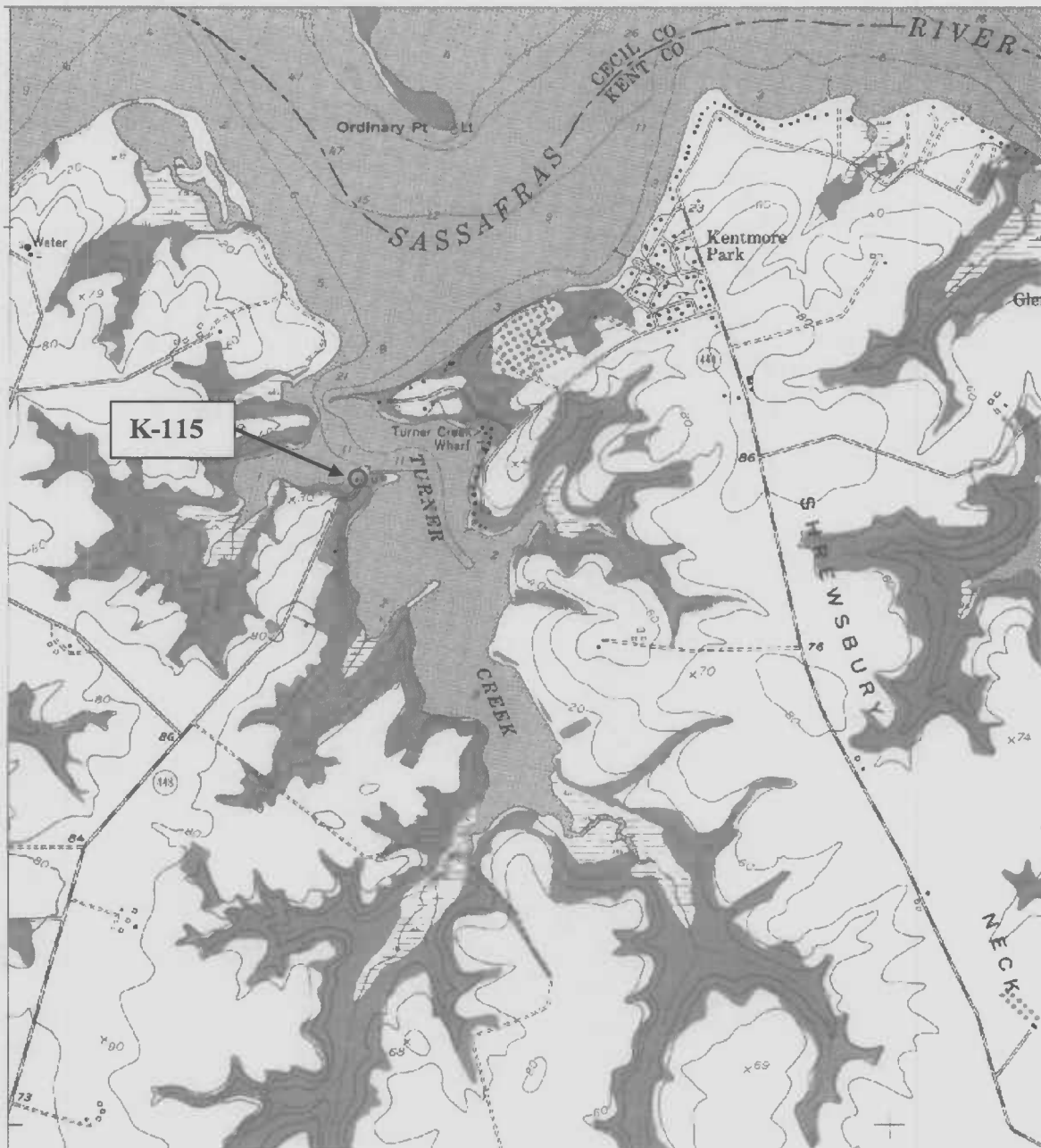
Maryland 21620

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

K-115
Lathim House
Turners Creek Road (MD 448)
Galena Quadrangle





Lathim House

M.H.T.K-115

Turners Creek Rd # 448

South Side

C. Engstrom

Aug 1944